## Her Majesty's Separatists Meet

# Lord Byron Foundation brings its 'Greater Serbia' cause to the U.S.

### by Our Special Correspondent

Great Britain's Lord Byron Foundation, a key vehicle for British Establishment backing of the Greater Serbia genocidalists in former Yugoslavia, will be holding its conference in the United States for the first time, at the end of February. The American co-sponsor of the conference is the magazine *Chronicles*—a major voice for neo-Confederate separatism inside the United States, as well as for flagrantly pro-Serb propaganda.

The gathering, which will run from Feb. 28 to March 2, will take place at the Moraine Hotel, in Chicago's Highwood district in the North Shore suburbs. (Ironically, the conference site is adjacent to Fort Sheridan, named for Union Gen. Philip Sheridan, a fervent defender of the United States against British-run secessionism.)

Under the title, "America's Intervention in the Balkans," the conference will be the occasion for bringing together a motley assortment of British operatives, Russian "pan-Orthodox" strategists, prominents in the U.S. Republican Party policy-making apparatus, and proponents of a "secession" from the United States by a revived "Southern Confederacy," who seek to renew the Confederate alliance with Great Britain against the United States.

The three leading figures in the Lord Byron Foundation, all of whom are scheduled to be in Chicago, are Sir Alfred Sherman, Cambridge University Prof. Michael Stenton, and Serge Trifkovic, formerly the official representative of the "Pale Serbs" (Pale was the Bosnian capital of Serbian war criminal Radovan Karadzic and his Bosnian Republika Srpska) in Britain. He now lives in Houston, Texas.

Other scheduled participants include James Jatras, of the U.S. Senate Republican Policy Committee; Prof. Yelena Guskova, of the Institute of Slavonic and Balkans Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences; foundation member Prof. Ronald Hatchett of the University of St. Thomas in Houston, a former U.S. Air Force colonel and senior Pentagon official; Southern League propagandist Thomas Fleming of *Chronicles* magazine; and a number of pro-Serb journalists, including David Binder of the *New York Times*, Samuel Francis, Charles Reese, and Joe Sobran.

As related by one of the conference's organizers, the meeting will have two foci. One is how to orient toward the current mass unrest in Serbia. The view of this conference

organizer is that the current opposition to Serbian dictator Slobodan Milosevic is a "mixture" of "good elements," who are committed to the Greater Serbian cause, but are dissatisfied with Milosevic's handling of the war against Bosnia and with his dictatorial rule; and what he considers the negative elements, who oppose not only Milosevic's dictatorship but also the Greater Serbian policy itself.

The second focus, is to oppose "American hegemonism" in Europe. This individual raved: "The Americans are using Bosnia, as part of their policy for expanding NATO, which is also to include Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine, and so on. The Americans are in a drive to take over all of Europe, it's that simple. And the Germans are supporting them."

With this notion of the United States as "the enemy" in mind, he expressed his hope, that the presence of neo-Confederate Thomas Fleming, might contribute toward a future breakup of the United States. "The splitting apart of the U.S. is a possibility," he said. Consistent with this hope, it should be noted that Fleming and his "Southern League" cohorts see the South as a "distinct nation" that will outlive, and prevail over, what they characterize as "the American empire," as we detail in the accompanying article.

#### The bizarre Sir Alfred

The Byron Foundation was launched in October 1994 by Sherman, Stenton, and Trifkovic, as a vehicle to mobilize international support for the Karadzic Serbs, in their holy war against the Bosnian government, and, more broadly, to build a global coalition of forces against what they claimed was an expanding "American imperialism" in Europe. In part, this was motivated by the fear of Alfred Sherman that the Bosnian Serb leadership, as ruthless as it might appear to observers around the world, was not bloodthirsty enough in its war against the Bosnian central authority, and was refusing to carry out the no-holds-barred military offensives that would guarantee Pale victory. In Sherman's view, Karadzic, Gen. Ratko Mladic, et al. needed a shot in the arm, from the outside.

Lord Byron, the freemasonic-linked, Venice-obsessed poet of the early 19th century, was chosen as the foundation "mascot," because of his Romantic efforts in favor of the "national liberation struggles" in the Balkans and Aegean regions. When Byron died, he was hailed as a martyr for

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The latter-day secessionists: Tom Fleming, editor of Chronicles, addresses a crowd of neo-Confederates in 1992. In 1994, Fleming founded the "Southern League" (modelled on Italy's secessionist Northern League), a group obsessed with their British tribal origins, who want the American South to split out of "the American empire."

various stirps of "liberationists," as they would agitate for their movements.

In the first weeks of 1995, the Byron Foundation held its first seminar in Moscow, together with the Russian Academy of Sciences Institute of Slavonic and Balkans Studies, with Professor Guskova being the organizer on the Russian side. Guskova is a hard-line advocate of the Russians' maintaining their "traditional solidarity" with their "Orthodox brothers" in the Balkans. Informed Russian sources report to *EIR*, that the Slavonic/Balkans division of the Russian Academy of Sciences is significantly penetrated by British intelligence influences; the British have provided grants for various projects, as well as other forms of support, and have used their connections to that division as a channel for concocting strategies against the policies of the United States, in the Balkans, Aegean, eastern Europe, etc.

The 1995 Byron Foundation event in Moscow was part of a crass effort to lure the Russians into the same strategic trap, which had set in motion the events leading to World War I earlier in this century, by activating, and playing on, the Pan-Slavic "Third Rome" tendencies in Moscow. In the

first years of this century, Russia, in significant part through the Balkans manipulations by the British, and through highlevel forces in Venice, was brought into a "Triple Entente" configuration with Britain and France against Austria and later Germany, the which made the First World War an inevitability.

Today, the idea is to foment a paranoia in Russia, against the United States, primarily, and Germany, secondarily, as "the enemies," and to portray U.S. strategy in the Balkans as part of a wider strategy to establish "American hegemony" across Europe, with a German "Fourth Reich" as an alleged American "junior partner."

According to Sir Alfred Sherman's testimony, one of the individuals they tried most to influence while they were in Moscow, was then head of the Russian Security Council, Gen. Aleksandr Lebed; Sherman relates that he and the other British visitors to Moscow worked Lebed over intensively, on this pan-Slavic proclivity. Whether this had any lasting effect on Lebed, is not clear.

The black propaganda attacks on an "American imperialism" that is allegedly in alliance with a German "Fourth

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Reich" have been the consistent threnody of Sir Alfred and collaborators, roughly since the conflicts in ex-Yugoslavia erupted in 1991-92. For example, the Byron Foundation's leading collaborator in France, Gen. Pierre Gallois, wrote a number of phantasmagoric articles in the early 1990s, portraying German strategy in favor of Croatia and Bosnia, as part of a "Fourth Reich" master plan, to establish German hegemony across Europe.

It is not surprising that Sir Alfred would share Baroness Margaret Thatcher's public utterances, that a unified Germany is a "Fourth Reich" threat to British geopolitical interests. Although Thatcher, unlike Sherman, has publicly presented herself as a supporter of the Bosnians against Serb aggression, her career as a whole owes a great deal to the bizarre Sherman.

In the early 1970s, he and the late Sir Keith Joseph (later Lord Joseph) created the Center for Policy Studies (CPS), the key think-tank that promoted the neo-liberal, free-market economics that would become known as "Thatcherism." Sherman, although now bitter at Thatcher's public stance on the Balkans, likes to boast that, without him, she would never have amounted to anything. Even discounting for Sir Alfred's notoriously overblown ego, there is undoubtedly some truth to that contention.

It was the CPS, in turn, which spawned such U.S. neoconservative think-tanks as the Washington-based Heritage Foundation. In the 1980s, Sherman was wont to gloat about his influence over crucial policy matters in the United States. He was deeply involved in rallying support for the Nicaraguan Contras, in their drug-money-backed war against the Sandinista government. In June 1983, when Henry Kissinger was brought onto the Presidential Commission on Central America, thereby gaining an entry into the Reagan administration, which had heretofore excluded him, Sherman boasted to *EIR*, "We tell Henry Kissinger what to do."

Sir Alfred's career itself is quite strange, and his current anti-American fixations seem to bring certain matters full circle. In the 1930s, he was a fanatical Communist devotee of the Spanish Republican cause in the Spanish Civil War, so militant in its defense, that he earned the nickname "Machine Gun Sherman." At some point after that, under circumstances not known at present, he underwent a Damascus Road conversion, and became a true-believing anti-communist, free-marketeer, loud-mouth racist, and supporter of various arcane "conservative" causes. For such devotions, he was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II.

In recent years, he has been Britain's most outspoken defender of, and most publicized participant in activities sponsored by the disreputable Rev. Sun Myung Moon. He has participated in conferences of various Moon front groups, and has vociferously defended Moon's right to visit Britain, a country from which he is officially banned.

According to information provided by a confidant of his, Sherman has also, at various points in recent decades, provided "services" to Israeli intelligence.

## Confederate Fleming pushes breakup of U.S.

by Edward Spannaus

Chronicles magazine is a natural to be co-sponsor along with the Lord Byron Foundation of the Conference on "America's Intervention in the Balkans" in Chicago on Feb. 28-March 2—a conference whose announcement calls the U.S. intervention to stop the genocide in Bosnia, a "new imperialism." Chronicles and its editor Thomas Fleming are long-standing enemies of the United States, who are loyally carrying on the British-sponsored effort to break up the Union, in the tradition of the Hartford Convention of 1804 and the Civil War of 1861-65.

Fleming has come in for praise, not surprising, from the Hollinger Corp.'s Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, the British-intelligence stringer who is operating in the United States under the guise of being the Washington correspondent for the *Sunday Telegraph* of London—and who promotes every variety of separatism and anti-government and anti-Clinton ferment he can find.

In the Sunday Telegraph almost exactly one year ago, Evans-Pritchard wrote: "Chronicles offers a home to forlorn causes that nobody else will touch. During the worst years of the violence in Bosnia, when everybody else was denouncing Belgrade and Pale for ethnic cleansing, Fleming was out there in the trenches interviewing the Serbs—or the Bosnian Christians, as he calls them—and he has since devoted hundreds of column inches to the Serb point of view."

(Maybe Evans-Pritchard is just returning a favor. In the preface to his 1988 book, *The Politics of Human Nature*, Fleming honors Ambrose Evans-Pritchard's father, the well-known British anthropologist, whose studies on the Nuer people in Sudan, says Fleming, were a seminal influence on him.)

#### The neo-Confederates

On July 19, 1992, *Insight* magazine, published by the Sun Myung Moon-run *Washington Times*, gave prominent coverage to a band of "neo-Confederates" whom it described as still fighting for "the principles of 1860." It featured a color photo of Tom Fleming standing alongside a Confederate flag.

The article was entitled, "Still Fighting the Civil War," and the summary at the top read: "For conservatives of the old right, the Civil War goes on—that is, the battle continues against federal enforcement of equality and for the expansion of states' rights."

The article was riddled with vitriolic attacks on Abraham Lincoln and the idea of equality. While not all "old-right" ad-